

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-30. (canceled)

Claim ¹~~31~~. (previously presented) A high performance tyre, comprising:

a carcass provided with at least one carcass ply;

a belt comprising two or more layers of reinforcing cords parallel to each other in a layer and crossed with respect to those of an adjacent layer, applied circumferentially on the carcass;

a radially-external layer of circumferentially-oriented reinforcing cords applied on the belt; and

a tread band comprising an underlayer and an external layer;

wherein the underlayer is made from an elastomer compound comprising reinforcing fibers and hardening resins; and

wherein a hardness of the underlayer does not vary by more than 5 International Rubber Hardness Degrees (IRHD) over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim ²~~32~~. (previously presented) The tyre of claim ¹~~31~~, wherein the hardness of the underlayer does not vary or varies by less than 5 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim ³33. (previously presented) The tyre of claim ¹31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer does not vary by more than 1 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim ⁴34. (previously presented) The tyre of claim ¹31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer is greater than 80 IRHD at 100°C.

Claim ⁵35. (previously presented) The tyre of claim ¹31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer is greater than 85 IRHD at 100°C.

Claim 36. (canceled)

Claim ⁶37. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ¹[[36]] ¹31, wherein the underlayer has a dynamic elastic modulus (E') ~~of the underlayer that~~ does not vary by more than 10% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

^{7 previously presented 6}
Claim ⁶38. (~~withdrawn~~) The tyre of claim ⁶37, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer does not vary by more than 5% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

⁸
Claim ⁶39. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ⁶[[36]] ⁶37, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer is greater than 15 MPa at 100°C.

9 previously presented *8*

Claim ~~40~~. (~~withdrawn~~) The tyre of claim ~~39~~, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer is greater than 20 MPa at 100°C.

Claim 41. (canceled)

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Claim ~~42~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the underlayer has a ratio between a 10% elongation load in a circumferential direction and a 10% elongation load in a ~~transverse~~ perpendicular direction which is greater than 3:1.

11 previously presented *1*

Claim ~~43~~. (~~withdrawn~~) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the hardening resins are based on components chosen from among one or more of the following groups: resorcinol-methylene donors, epoxides-dicarboxylic acids, epoxides-diamines, epoxides-polyols, and alcohol-diacids.

12 previously presented *11*

Claim ~~44~~. (~~withdrawn~~) The tyre of claim ~~43~~, wherein the methylene donors are hexamethoxymethylmelamine (HMMM) or hexamethylenetetramine (HMT).

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Claim ~~45~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the underlayer ~~comprises a hardening resin~~ hardening resins are resins based on resorcinol and methylene donors in precondensed form in a quantity greater than 0.5 phr.

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Claim ~~46~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the elastomer compound ~~comprises a hardening resin~~ hardening resins are resins based on

resorcinol and methylene donors in a form of two components, wherein a quantity of resorcinol is greater than 0.5 phr, and wherein a ratio of a quantity of methylene donors to the quantity of resorcinol is between 0.5:1 and 3:1.

¹⁵ previously presented
Claim ~~47~~. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the reinforcing fibers are chosen from among: polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, carbon fibers, glass fibers, and polyvinyl alcohol.

¹⁶ previously presented
Claim ~~48~~. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the reinforcing fibers are aramid fibers.

¹⁷
Claim ~~49~~. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~48~~, wherein the ~~elastomer compound comprises~~ reinforcing fibers are a quantity of aramid fibers ranging between 3 phr and 10 phr.

¹⁸
Claim ~~50~~. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~49~~, wherein the ~~elastomer compound comprises~~ reinforcing fibers are a quantity of aramid fibers ranging between 6 phr and 9 phr.

¹⁹
Claim ~~51~~. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~31~~, wherein the underlayer has a uniform thickness greater than 1 mm.

²⁰
Claim ~~52~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ¹⁹~~51~~, wherein the underlayer has a uniform thickness between 1.5 mm and 2 mm.

²¹
Claim ~~53~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The tyre of claim ¹~~[[51]] 31~~, wherein the thickness of the underlayer is variable.

Claims 54-56. (canceled)

²⁵
Claim ~~57~~. (~~withdrawn~~, currently amended) The method of claim ²²~~58~~, wherein the thermostable compound has ~~[[an]]~~ a dynamic elastic modulus (E') which ~~is substantially constant~~ does not vary by more than 10% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

²²
Claim ~~58~~. (previously presented) A method for improving behaviour at high speeds of a high-performance tyre, the tyre comprising:

a carcass provided with at least one carcass ply;

a belt comprising two or more layers of reinforcing cords parallel to each other in a layer and crossed with respect to those of an adjacent layer, applied circumferentially on the carcass; and

a radially-external layer of circumferentially-oriented reinforcing cords applied on the belt;

the method comprising:

mounting on a periphery of the radially-external layer a tread band
comprising an underlayer and an external layer;
wherein the underlayer comprises a thermostable compound comprising
reinforcing fibers and hardening resins, and
wherein a hardness of the thermostable compound does not vary by more than
5 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

23 previously presented *22*
Claim ~~59~~. (~~withdrawn~~) The method of claim ~~58~~, wherein the tread band is
obtained by coextruding the underlayer and the external layer.

24 previously presented *22*
Claim ~~60~~. (~~withdrawn~~) The method of claim ~~58~~, wherein the underlayer is
obtained by calendering.